

Wisconsin Farm to School

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

September 16, 2014 |

In today's Wisconsin Farm to School newsletter, you will find:

- [New Resources](#)
- [Webinars, Conferences and Events](#)
- [Funding opportunities](#)

Join us at noon on Friday, October 24, 2014



Let's make the loudest crunch, ever!!

Join Wisconsin students of all ages, from preschool to college, along with individuals across the Great Lakes Region states of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio, in celebrating National Farm to School Month and Food Day by crunching into locally and regionally grown apples at **NOON** on Friday, October 24, 2014 (EST and CST).

This collective crunch encourages healthy eating and supports farm to school and other local food-purchasing initiatives throughout the region. It's also a fun way to connect food and nutrition to all kinds of classroom curriculum – from science to art! The Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch provides your school, district, county or region the framework to host a successful local food event this October.

Of course, not everyone can Crunch on Food Day, so we encourage you to Crunch anytime in October to celebrate National Farm to School Month.

To register your school and to get more information or materials, please email wifarmtoschool@wi.gov.

New Resources

Farm to School toolkit

National Farm to School Month [Communications Toolkit 2014](#)

The toolkit contains an explanation of this year's Farm to School Month activities, a sample press release, suggested social media posts, sample text for newsletters and ideas and tips for making media pitches. Use it for any and all of your outreach needs.

Farm to School Month webinar

[National Farm to School Month 2014 campaign - September 23rd, 12 CST](#)

This webinar will offer an overview of our 2014 Farm to School Month campaign and how you can get involved!



Seeking Business Listings for Local and Regional Food Directories

Two [recent announcements](#) by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) [Agricultural Marketing Service \(AMS\)](#) highlighted the agency's progress in developing three new directories that will support local and regional food systems and updated data for the already established [National Farmers Market Directory](#).

The announcements included steps AMS is taking to launch three new local food directories: the National Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) Enterprise Directory, National Food Hub Directory, and National On-Farm Market Directory. AMS is currently accepting business listings for these new directories through its [webpage](#).

Webinars, Conferences and Events



Growing Power's Urban and Small Farms Conference

"Building a Fair Food Economy to Grow Healthy People"

November 7-9, 2014 | Potawatomi Hotel & Casino, Milwaukee, WI.

People from all over the world will gather in Milwaukee to discuss and learn about best practices in sustainable agriculture, focusing on innovations underway that will grow a healthier future. Conference workshops will be innovative and multidisciplinary, facilitated by growers who are currently operating urban and small farms, as well as those who are working in areas that support this emerging area of agriculture and local economic development. The conference will also include other events such as: Annual GFJI Gathering, GFJI Film Festival, Makers Bazaar, Chef Gala and Milwaukee-area field trips.

Funding opportunities

NCR-SARE Announces 2015 Call for Research and Education Preproposals

The 2015 North Central Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (NCR-SARE) Research and Education Grant Program Call for Preproposals is now available online at <http://www.northcentralsare.org/Grants/Our-Grant-Programs/Research-and-Education>

For questions or additional information regarding the R&E Grant Program, contact Beth Nelson bethnelson@umn.edu.

Win a healthy playground makeover

Anyone can [now enter](#) on behalf of a Pre-K or elementary school to win our annual [Healthy Playground Makeover Sweepstakes](#). Entering once a day, everyday, increases the chance to make a big difference at a local school.

[Enter today!](#) Little kids have a chance to make big changes too! Pre-K Schools and Head Start programs are eligible to enter to win a [Smart from the Start Award](#).





Apply today for a garden grant from the Whole Kids Foundation

Created in partnership with Food Corps, the School Garden Grant program provides a \$2,000 monetary grant to a K-12 school or a non-profit working in partnership with a K-12 school, to support a new or existing edible garden on school grounds.

Grant closes on 10/31/2014

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact DATCP's Sarah Elliott at 608-224-5046 or sarah.elliott@wisconsin.gov.